

BEGINNINGS.

If all the world were new,
And every flower the first,
That from a bud had burst;
Then, as it lived and grew,
What glad and fair surprise
Would lighten in our eyes!

If every little bird
Sang its first song to-day,
Should we not think it gay?
And as the tones we heard,
What wonder and what glee
Would greet such minstrelsy!

If every silvery brook
Had just slipped from its hill
A gurgling, crystal rill,
How eagerly we'd look,
How revel in the sight
Of wavelets clear and bright!

Oh! little child to you,
The whole great glorious world
Has yet to be unfurled,
For everything is new.
A fairy prospect lies
Before your wondering eyes.

Look with your vision true,
Catch with your unjarred ear
Tones *we* have ceased to hear
Till we believe anew,
Taught by your joyous mood,
That All was once made good.

EDITORIAL.

AT the Students' Meeting, which is to take place on the twenty-second of March, the appointment of a new editor has to be considered. The present writer is leaving the neighbourhood of London, and is therefore resigning the editorship. Will all members kindly send their contributions to Miss Pennethorne, Sunnyside, Rawtenstall, *pro tem.*? May I remind students and ex-students that *any matter which is destined for the printing press must be written on one side of the paper only*. Those who write letters to the Magazine invariably forget this, and the task of copying their epistles is by no means a light one, especially in the case of the Students' Letter.

We should all be interested in Miss Devonshire's letter concerning the suggested Scholarship Fund, and it is to be hoped a correspondence on the subject will be opened in the Magazine. Miss Devonshire says nothing on the all-important question of from whence the funds are to be raised. The collecting of the £1500, which are required as capital, will probably prove a difficulty, but beyond this there are special difficulties connected with the award of the scholarship which might well be discussed in these pages. The results of a written examination are not likely to show which candidate is most likely to benefit by the two years' training. The object of the P.N.E.U. being, as we all know, "training and not teaching only," we wish to discover not the most highly instructed teacher, but the best educator.

Each one of us has probably met with the type of girl of whom we would particularly wish that she should be helped. She is not unusually clever, perhaps, and having had few educational advantages, she yet has the "enthusiasm of childhood," and would love her work for its own sake; and she is the sort of girl in whose company we would gladly see any children we love, whose smile and way of speaking and looking and living we would gladly let them emulate, whose courage and hopefulness and helpfulness makes us think with

shame of our own career—richer in advantages and often inferior in result. Most keenly will such a girl feel any shortcomings in her own knowledge or powers of teaching, most eager will she be to do justice to her pupils, and she will regret the inability of her parents to send her to college, not because of the golden days she might spend there, not because of the happy life with its comradeships, its pleasures and its delightful sense of youthfulness, but for the sense of deficiency in herself, for the knowledge that she is not giving out what she has in her to give, for the feeling that her work lacks method, wants power, needs arrangement. Experience may help her, and she can and does improve, but it is at the cost of pain to herself and loss to her pupils in the meanwhile. How she would welcome a little help! how eager she is to enquire! how anxious to learn! But from her salary of £20 or £30 a year she has little to spare for going abroad, or for classes or lectures during the holidays or in the term. Perhaps, too, she has to help her home, or if she has no home, the long holidays bring many expenses, and so there seems little chance of saving for the future when that invaluable asset of youth will be gone.

What other means of selection can be chosen if examinations are tabooed is hard to say. Whether candidates should be expected to show that they have already been successful with children to some extent, or whether a system of voting would help, or whether both examinations and personal references could be considered, are questions on which your opinion is asked, and it is to be hoped that you will give it.

We hope the Reading Union will not be confined to a faithful few. I am glad to see more post cards this time, but several students have read one or more of the books chosen without writing criticisms on them. Everybody who has the Magazine belongs to the Reading Union, and can send post cards without further ceremony.

I must apologise for the unpunctuality of this number, which is due to my illness. Also for having left unanswered several letters, owing to the same cause and to my having changed my lodgings so frequently that I fear some of them have never reached me. This being my last "Editorial," I must bid farewell to *L'Umile Pianta*, save in the capacity of an occasional contributor if the new Editor permits. I hope you will all try to improve the Magazine, and send your new

Editor plenty of contributions, and not only post cards that have to be forwarded to the Secretary or the Treasurer, and, unless the Committee chooses, an Editor with the patience of Griselda, *please* do not write on both sides of your paper.

D. N.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following students are requested to send their subscriptions for 1902 to Miss Lilian Gray, 5, Old Palace Lane, Richmond :—

Miss Bradley,	Miss M. Kerr,
„ Culverhouse,	„ E. Persse,
„ N. Clark,	„ E. O. Williams,
„ L. S. Edwards,	„ Tetley.
„ K. R. Hammond.	

Miss Ross has not paid for 1901, but has sent no notice of withdrawal of membership.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENSES.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Dec., 1901.				Jan. 25, 1902.			
Brought forward	13	9	1½	To E. C. Allen	1	4	9½
Jan., 1902.				Jan. 27.			
58 Subscriptions @ 3/6..	10	3	0	Post Cards		2	6
Feb.				Stamps		2	6
35 Subscriptions @ 3/6..	6	2	6	Jan. 28.			
Sale of 5 Magazines (per				Paper and Envelopes ..		1	1
Miss Kitching) ..		2	6	Feb. 5.			
				Stamps (from Subs.) ..		4	8
				Printing July Magazine	5	5	0
				Printing Nov. Magazine	5	5	0
				Mar. 7.			
				Balance in hand	17	11	7
					<u>£29</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>1½</u>
	£29	17	1½				

LILIAN GRAY, Treasurer.